

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the Abstract and replace it with the following:

--An apparatus includes a first encoder for receiving a plurality of symbol streams for respective ones of a plurality of mobile stations and encoding each of the symbol streams with one of a plurality of covering sequences to form a plurality of covered sequences. The apparatus further includes a summer for summing the plurality of covered sequences to form a first Code Division Multiplexed (CDM) signal. In addition, the apparatus includes a second encoder for covering the first CDM signal with a covering sequence to form a first covered CDM signal. A system and method for multiplexing plurality of symbol streams are also provided.--